

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An orthotic device, comprising:

a base unit having an elongated support member, at least one support pad adjacently positioned on and attached to said support member, a fastener ~~fastening means attached to and extending~~ between ~~from~~ said support member and ~~to~~ said support pad, and an ~~apertures bored through in~~ said support member capable of receiving a connector ~~fasteners~~ therein;

a ~~said~~ metacarpal unit having a metacarpal ~~an~~ internal pad mounted onto and projecting from an external casing and an attachment member between ~~means fastened onto~~ said external casing and ~~capable of receiving and being attached to~~ said metacarpal internal pad; and

a hinge system connecting said base unit to said ~~hand~~ metacarpal unit, said hinge system having a shell with a shell ~~an~~ interior pad positioned on said shell and a plurality of apertures in ~~bored through~~ said shell each ~~and~~ capable of accepting the connector ~~fasteners~~ therein.

2. **(Original)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said base unit conforms substantially about a forearm of a user.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said elongated support member has at least one recess formed therein allowing said fastener ~~fastening means~~ to access said support pad.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said elongated support member, said ~~exterior~~ shell and said external casing are each made of a material selected from the group consisting of: epoxy matrix carbon fiber, moldable carbon fiber, Kevlar composite material, plastic and thermoplastic material.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said at least one support pad, said metacarpal interior pad and said shell internal pad being made of a material selected from the group consisting of: open cell foam, closed cell foam, cotton, a viscoelastic polymer-gel or air filled member, ~~liquid material, granular material and air material~~.

6-8. **(Cancelled)**

9. **(Original)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, where said support pad is detachably affixed on said support member, where said internal pad is removably attached on said external casing, and where said interior pad is detachably fastened on said exterior shell.

10. **(Original)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said metacarpal unit swivels in a lateral fashion in relation to said hinge system.

11. **(Original)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said hinge system is capable of moving up to a 45° angle in an upward vertical fashion with respect to the base unit.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said hinge system is capable of moving at up to ~~about~~ 150° angle in a downward, flexing motion.

13. **(Original)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said elongated support member and said shell each have at least one stop formed thereon, wherein each of said stop abuts one another to limit extension, flexion and ulnar-radial deviation.

14-15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(New)** An orthotic device for rehabilitation of a user's wrist, comprising:

a base unit having an elongated support member and conforming substantially to a forearm of the user, a support pad at least partially on said

support member, a fastener extending between said support member and said support pad, and an aperture in said support member capable of receiving a connector therein;

a metacarpal unit having a metacarpal pad at least partially on an external casing and an attachment member between said external casing and said metacarpal pad; and

a hinge system connecting said base unit to said metacarpal unit, said hinge system having a plurality of apertures in said shell each capable of accepting the connector therein.

17. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 16, wherein said elongated support member has at least one recess formed therein allowing said fastener to access said support pad.

18. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 16, wherein said elongated support member, said shell and said casing are each made of a material selected from the group consisting of: epoxy matrix carbon fiber, moldable carbon fiber, Kevlar composite material, plastic and thermoplastic material.

19. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 16, wherein said support pad and said metacarpal interior pad each being made of a material selected from the

group consisting of: open cell foam, closed cell foam, cotton, a viscoelastic polymer-gel or air filled member.

20. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 16, where said support pad is detachably affixed on said support member, and said metacarpal pad is removably attached on said external casing.

21. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 16, wherein said metacarpal unit swivels in a lateral fashion in relation to said hinge system.

22. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said elongated support member and said shell each have at least one stop thereon to limit extension.

23. **(New)** An orthotic device, comprising:

a base unit having an elongated support member and a support pad at least partially on said support member, a fastener extending between said support member and said support pad, and a plurality of apertures in said support member each capable of receiving a connector therein;

a metacarpal unit having a metacarpal pad at least partially on an external casing and an attachment member between said external casing and said metacarpal pad; and

Appl. No.: 10/623,271

Amendment Dated: August 24, 2005

Reply to Office Action of March 24, 2005

a hinge system connecting said base unit to said metacarpal unit, said hinge system having a shell and a plurality of apertures in said shell each capable of accepting a corresponding connector therein, and said metacarpal unit swivels in a lateral fashion in relation to said hinge system.

24. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 23, where said support pad is detachably affixed on said support member, and said metacarpal pad is removably attached on said external casing.

25. **(New)** The orthotic device as recited in claim 23, wherein said elongated support member and said shell each have at least one stop formed thereon to limit extension.